been sanctioned to the Government of Gujarat for the following projects:

1. Construction of Portable Dwelling Units at Kutch (Mandvi)
2. Development of Dholaveer.

Development of Eco-Tourism

1537. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not shown any enthusiam for developing Eco-tourism;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the natural service spots in the country would attract tourists;

(d) if so, the reasons for neglecting this sector;

(e) whether any discussion have taken place with State Governments in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details of the discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) The Government policy is to develop Eco-tourism in the country. Eco-tourism projects proposed by the State/Union Territory Governments are provided Central financial assistance on the basis of their inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds.

Ministry of Tourism has formulated the Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines which has been endorsed by all State Governments and Union Territories.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Proposals of Eco-tourism projects are discussed with State Governments. The subject was an agenda item in the State Tourism Minister's Conference in June, 1997, which endorsed the Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines. These were finally released in the State Tourism Minister's Conference in August, 1998.

Promotion of Tourism in Coastal Areas of Gujarat

1538. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme/proposal for the promotion of tourism in the coastal areas of Gujarat is under consideration of Government.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme/proposal have been approved by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Touirism has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 30.00 lakhs for construction of Portable Dwelling Units at Kutch (Mandvi) during the current financial year. The proposal submitted by th State Government for the Beach Development of Mandvi was not as per the guidelines laid down by the Ministry of Tourism. Therefore, the Ministry of Tourism has asked the State Government of Gujarat to submit a proposal.

Development of Tourism in Assam

1539. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue earned by Government from the tourism sector, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that discriminatory treatment has been adopted by Government with regard to development of the tourist places in the State of Assam;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?